

had been sitting only a few minutes, however, when we saw a huge boulder six feet in diameter issue from the lava. We all rushed, as by instinct, up the banks of scoriæ to get beyond its reach, and, turning, saw it come bounding through our sandy valley, and, just by where we had been setting, it struck a rock and threw off thousands of red-hot fragments that went bounding through the air like so many meteors.

“ We made a very hasty retreat from our pleasant valley, not knowing what might be the next move.

“ A walk of half a mile brought us where we could have a full view of four streams of burning lava. Three of these had divided into two each about half way down the cone, and two had reached the valley, and one or two others were nearly down.

“ It was now dark, and the brilliant display of these, combined with the incessant shower of stones thrown up by the crater, which fell by thousands on the side of the mountain, and could be seen chasing each other down the declivity, cannot be described.

“ I took a sketch of the position of the streams, and, on my return, Professor Phillips, of Oxford, seemed so much interested in our account, that I gave it to him.

“ Our guide said there had been no such flow of lava before this year. His statement is not of much value, were it not confirmed by others.”

New nomination 589 was read.

And the Society was adjourned.

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*Stated Meeting, May 15, 1868.*

Present, nine members.

Professor CRESSON, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Donations for the Library were announced, viz. : from the Royal Academy, at Turin ; From Professor Zantedeschi, at Venice ; from the Geographical Society, at Paris ; from M. Dunod, Editor of the *Annals des Mines*, Paris ; from the

Royal Astronomical Society, at London; from the Department of State, at Washington; from James B. Francis; from the Public Library, of Boston; from the United States Naval Observatory, at Washington; from L. Lesquèreux; from the Editors of the American Journal of Science and Arts; the American Athenæum; the Galaxy; and the Medical News.

Mr. Peale laid on the table a specimen of an alga (conferva), from a warm spring in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Observations were made upon this variety of vegetable growth, by Dr. Le Conte and other members.

The Minutes of the Board of Officers and Council at their last meeting, were read.

Pending nomination No. 589 and new nomination No. 590 were read.

And the Society was adjourned.

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*Stated Meeting, June 19, 1868.*

Present, nine members.

Dr. Wood, President, in the Chair.

Dr. E. Rhoads, a recently elected member, was introduced and took his seat.

Letters were read: from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, at Pesth, dated August 13th, 1865; from the Nassau Society of Natural Philosophy, at Wiesbaden, January 8th, 1868; from the Royal Prussian Academy of Science, at Berlin, December 31st, 1867; from the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries of Copenhagen, October, 1867; from the Imperial and Royal Zoologico-Botanical Society at Vienna, February 25th, 1868; from the Royal Society of Victoria, at Melbourne; from the Royal Academy of History at Madrid, January 21st, 1868; from the Chicago Academy of Sciences, April 5th, 1868; from the Superintendent of the United States Naval Observatory, May 3d, 1868, severally